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EXAMINER

RAMAKRISHNAIAH, MELUR

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2614

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/674,789

Applicant(s)

KRISBERGH ET AL.

Examiner

Melur Ramakrishnaiah

Art Unit

2614

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 October 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-73 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 17-25 and 49-73 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 and 26-48 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |                                                                                                                        |                                                                                         |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                            | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                                |

Art Unit: 2614

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
  - I. Claims 1-16, 26-48, drawn to Video telephone communications, classified in class 348, subclass 14.01.
  - II. Claims 17-25, drawn to communications using plural networks, classified in class 379, subclass 100.12.
  - III. Claims 49-73, drawn to telephone communications for obtaining business related information such as yellow pages /white pages etc, classified in class 379, subclass 93.12.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

2. Inventions I, II and III are unrelated. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together and they have different designs, modes of operation, and effects (MPEP § 802.01 and § 806.06). In the instant case, the different inventions, Group I is related video Telecommunications, and Group II is related communications using plural networks, and Group 3 is related to communications for obtaining business related information.
3. Because these inventions are independent or distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art in view of their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.
4. During a telephone conversation with William Blake on 1-25-2006 a provisional election was made with traverse to prosecute the invention of Group I, claims 1-16, 26-48. Affirmation of this election must be made by applicant in replying to this Office

Art Unit: 2614

action. Claims 17-25 and 49-73 are withdrawn from further consideration by the examiner, 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a non-elected invention.

5. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

6. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

7. Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 16 recites among other things: determining from the stored information whether the party to be called is capable of receiving videophone call, if the party is not capable of receiving a videophone call, connecting the calling party to the party to be called through communication network and the communication media configured for transmitting video and audio communications of the calling party and the communication network and the communication media configured for transmitting audio communications of the called party. This limitation is not consistent in the sense that if the called party is not capable of receiving videophone call, how can the called party is capable of receiving video communications as recited in the claim.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

8. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

9. Claims 1-2, 4-6, 9-11, 12, 14, are rejected under 35 U.S.C 102(e) as being anticipated by Parker et al. (US PAT: 6,545,697, filed 10-16-2001, hereinafter Paraker).

Regarding claim 1, Parker discloses a videophone system comprising: a plurality of videophones (101-104, fig. 1, col. 3 lines 20-27), at least one communication network (101/102, fig. 1) configured for transmitting video and audio communications interconnecting the videophones (col. 3, line 28 – col. 4, line 31), at least one operation center (reads on 800, fig. 8, 111, fig. 1) connected with the communication network and having means for storing information related to the users of the videophones, the operations center being configured to communicate with videophones via communication network (figs. 9-10, col. 10 lines 15-56).

Regarding claims 2, 4-6, 9-11, Parker further teaches the following: at least one communication medium (111/120, fig. 1) configured for transmitting video and audio communications, connecting each of the videophones (101-104) to communications network (col. 3 lines 20-27), operations center (800; fig. 8) comprises means for storing a user registry including phone directory information related to the users, operations

Art Unit: 2614

center comprises means for storing a user registry including provisioning information related to the users (col. 10 lines 15-27), operation center comprises at least one server for processing one or more of the following applications: determining call particulars such as length of call and location of parties to the call for billing (col. 10, lines 61-62), processing SIP protocols for communicating with other videophone systems and components thereof, authenticating and ensuring security of calling videophone systems and components thereof (col. 3 lines 43-53), enabling traditional telephone applications such as caller ID, determining availability of the called party for call, call messaging, interconnecting with PSTN network etc (col. 4, line 65-col. 4, line 31), videophone interface unit, wherein videophone interface unit is remotely located from the videophone and proximate to communication medium, videophone is wirelessly /cable means connected to the videophone interface unit and the videophone interface unit is connected via cable means to the communication medium (col. 4, line 66-col. 5, line 1), videophone interface unit is a component of the videophone, and the videophone is connected to the communication medium (fig. 3 col. 5 lines 19-26).

Claim 12 is rejected on the same basis as claim 1.

Regarding claim 14, Parker teaches the following: images and sound of at least one of the parties is captured by a camera and microphone (not shown) contained within a videophone device serving as an end user terminal for videophone communication system (col. 4 lines 59-56).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

10. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

11. Claims 3, 13, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parker in view of Van De Sluis et al. (US 2002/0080230, hereinafter Van De Sluis).

Parker differs from claim 3 in that although he teaches operations center such as 800 (fig. 8) for storing user registry (col. 10 lines 15-19), he does not teach registry including video information related to the users.

However, Van De Sluis discloses including a persons image in a store which teaches registry including video information related to the users (figs. 1, 3, paragraph: 0026).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to modify Parker's system to provide for registry including video information related to the users as this arrangement would facilitate users to make telephone calls by selecting video images and initiating telephone call as taught by Van De Sluis (paragraph: 0012), thereby facilitating users to make telephone call after visually recognizing the communication partner before initiating communication.

Regarding claims 13, Parker teaches the following: selectably obtaining the images and sounds of the calling party, digitizing the obtained images and sounds of the calling party, selectively obtaining the images and sounds of the called party,

Art Unit: 2614

selectably transmitted the obtained images and sounds of the calling party to the called party over communications media and communications network, and seletably transmitted the obtained images and sounds of the called party to the calling party over communication network (col. 10 lines 15-56); but he does not specifically teach the following: uniquely identifying the party to be called with respect to the stored information relating to the users of the videophone.

However, Van De Sluis teaches the following: uniquely identifying the party to be called with respect to the stored information relating to the users of the videophone (paragraph:0012).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to modify Parker's system to provide for uniquely identifying the party to be called with respect to the stored information relating to the users of the videophone as this arrangement would facilitate users to make telephone calls by selecting video images and initiating telephone call as taught by Van De Sluis, thereby facilitating users to make telephone call after visually recognizing the communication partner before initiating communication.

12. Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parker in view of Imeda et al. (US PAT: 5,473,366; hereinafter Imeda).

Parker differs from claim 15 in that he does not teach the following: images and sounds of at least one of the parties to the call is retrieved from memory means which are includes as part of videophone communications system.



Art Unit: 2614

However, Imeda discloses television telephone apparatus which teaches the following: images and sounds of at least one of the parties to the call is retrieved from memory means which are includes as part of videophone communications system (fig. 2 col. 9 lines 31-43).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to modify Parker's system to provide for images and sounds of at least one of the parties to the call is retrieved from memory means which are includes as part of videophone communications system as this arrangement would facilitate video telephone answering function so that user can find out information about missed calls as is well known in the art.

13. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parker in view of Allen (US 2002/0199181A1).

Parker differs from claim 7 in that he does not teach the following: a CATV network, and wherein each of the videophones is connected to a cable modem as a component of the communication medium.

However, Allen teaches the following: a CATV network (102, fig. 1), and wherein each of the videophones is connected to a cable modem (302, fig. 3) as a component of the communication medium (paragraphs: 0024-0025; 0030).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to modify Parker's system to provide for a CATV network, and wherein each of the videophones is connected to a cable modem as a component of the communication medium as this arrangement would provide for broadband cable

Art Unit: 2614

network for communications which provides greater bandwidth for video communications as is well known in the art.

14. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parker in view of Arnott (US2002/0083462A1).

Parker differs from claimed invention in that he does not teach the following: an XDSL network, and wherein each of the videophones is connected to an XDSL modem as a component of the communication medium.

However, Arnott discloses apparatus and method for establishing audio and video conferencing which teaches the following: an XDSL network, and wherein each of the videophones is connected to an XDSL modem as a component of the communication medium (fig. 1, paragraph: 0026).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to modify Parker's system to provide for: an XDSL network, and wherein each of the videophones is connected to an XDSL modem as a component of the communication medium as this arrangement would provide for broadband network for communications which provides greater bandwidth for video communications as is well known in the art.

15. Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parker in view of Barraclough (US PAT: 6,163,335).

Parker differs claim 16 in that although he teaches the following: connecting plurality of PSTN phones to one or more communication media and communication network configured for transmitting audio communications (fig. 1, col. 3 lines 20-37); but

Art Unit: 2614

he does not teach the following: uniquely identifying party to be called, determining from the stored information whether the party to be called is capable of receiving videophone call, if the party is not capable of receiving a videophone call, connecting the calling party to the party to be called through the communications network and the communications media configured for transmitting video and audio communications of the calling party and the communications network and the communications media configured to transmitting audio communications of the called party.

However, Barraclough teaches the following: uniquely identifying party to be called, determining from the stored information whether the party to be called is capable of receiving videophone call, if the party is not capable of receiving a videophone call, connecting the calling party to the party to be called through the communications network and the communications media configured for transmitting video and audio communications of the calling party and the communications network and the communications media configured to transmitting audio communications of the called party (col. 1, line 64 – col. 2, line 15).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to modify Parker's system to provide for: uniquely identifying party to be called, determining from the stored information whether the party to be called is capable of receiving videophone call, if the party is not capable of receiving a videophone call, connecting the calling party to the party to be called through the communications network and the communications media configured for transmitting video and audio communications of the calling party and the communications network

Art Unit: 2614

and the communications media configured to transmitting audio communications of the called party as this arrangement would allow the user to set up desired communications as thought by Barraclough.

16. Claims 26, 31, 36-37, 45-46, 47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mazurek et al. (WO 99/34600, hereinafter Mazurek) in view of Ono et al. (JP 407264298A, hereinafter Ono) and Kerr (US PAT: 5,844,600).

Regarding claim 47, Mazurek discloses a method of making a videophone call comprising: connecting at least two videophones to a communication network configured for transmitting video and audio communications, each videophones including a camera (5, fig. 1), a display screen (7, fig. 1), speaker (6, fig. 1), microphone (8, fig. 1) all of which are operatively connected (figs. 1, 4, page 4 lines 6-24), placing a videophone call to the called party using information entered or selected by the calling party, digitizing signals received by the camera (fig. 4) of the calling party's videophone, for selectably transmitting such camera signals over the communications network, digitizing the signals received by the microphone (fig. 4) of the calling party's videophone and for selectably transmitting microphone signals over the communication network with the camera signals of the calling party's videophone, digitizing the signals received by the camera of the called party's videophone, for selectably transmitting such camera signals over the communication network, digitizing the signals received by the microphone of the called party's videophone and for selectably transmitting such microphone signals over the communications network, receiving the digital signals transmitted by the videophone of the calling party over the communications network

Art Unit: 2614

representing the images and sound transmitted by the videophone of the called party and for selectably displaying the signals representing the images on the display screen and for playing signals representing the sound on the speaker of the videophone of the called party, and receiving the digital signals transmitted by the videophone of the called party over the communications network representing images and sound transmitted by the videophone of the calling party and for selectiably displaying the signals respresenting the images on the display screen and for playing the signals representing the sound on the speaker of the videophone of the calling party (page 6, line 4 – page 13, line 2).

Mazurek differs from claim 47 in that he does not specifically teach the following: selectably entering or selecting information with the videophone of the calling party uniquely identifying the videophone of the called party with respect to any other systems or devices connected to the communication network, and synchronizing microphone signals with camera signals.

However, Ono discloses communication method and its device which teaches the following: selectably entering or selecting information with the videophone of the calling party uniquely identifying the videophone of the called party with respect to any other systems or devices connected to the communication network (fig. 1, see abstract); and Kerr teaches the following: synchronizing microphone signals with camera signals (abstract).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to modify Mazurek's system to provide for: selectably entering or

Art Unit: 2614

selecting information with the videophone of the calling party uniquely identifying the videophone of the called party with respect to any other systems or devices connected to the communication network as this arrangement would provide means for selecting a most proper communication means for communicating with the other party as taught by Ono, and synchronizing microphone signals with camera signals as this arrangement would provide display of camera signals with appropriate audio so that user gets satisfactory communication while communicating with audio and video.

Claim 26 is rejected on the same basis as claim 47.

Regarding claims 31, 36-37, 45-46, Mazurek further teaches the following: memory means for storing information related to the operation of the videophone, wherein such information includes one or more of the following: operation menus, telephone directories, user preferences, call logs, information about the users videophone to be called with the videophone, etc types of information which the videophone can receive includes one or more of the following: messaging services, information services, audio telephone calls, video telephone calls or PSTN telephone calls etc, telephone directories one or more of the following: speed dial numbers, videophone numbers, standard PSTN telephone numbers, etc (page 12 lines 20-32), auxiliary input means for locally generated video images such as still pictures and full motion video and auxiliary input control means for selectably digitizing and transmitting such locally generated images in addition to or as an alternative to the signals received by the camera (see auxiliary audio input/output (17, fig. 4), auxiliary NTSC video input

Art Unit: 2614

(17, fig. 4)), display is a rectangular screen (7, fig. 1) that has been rotated ninety degrees (fig. 1) to afford vertical display of two video windows (page 11 lines 13-17).

17. Claim 27 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mazurek in view of Ono and Kerr as applied to claim 26 above, and further in view of Suzuki (US 2003/0007793 A1, filed 6-18-2002) and Katz (US2002/0001372A1).

The combination differs from claim 27 in that it does teach the following: high resolution camera and wide angle lens, and image processing means for affording zoom, pan and tilt functionality by selecting various zones of magnifications within the resultant image from the camera.

However, Suzuki teaches high resolution camera and wide angle lens (paragraphs: 0092, 0136), and Katz teaches the following: image processing means for affording zoom, pan and tilt functionality by selecting various zones of magnifications within the resultant image from the camera (fig. 3, paragraph: 0087).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to modify the combination to provide for the following: high resolution camera and wide angle lens as this arrangement provides high resolution images as taught by Suzuki, thus providing better images; and image processing means for affording zoom, pan and tilt functionality by selecting various zones of magnifications within the resultant image from the camera as this arrangement as this arrangement would facilitate manipulating image to suite user needs as taught by Karz,

Art Unit: 2614

18. Claim 28 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mazurek in view of Ono and Kerr as applied to claim 26 above, and further in view of Guichard et al. (US PAT: 5,142,562, hereinafter Guichard).

The combination differs from claim 28 in that he does not teach illumination means for providing supplemental light for the camera

However, Guichard discloses sound and vision communications terminal which teaches the following: illumination means (160, fig. 1) for providing supplemental light for the camera (col. 3 lines 3-11).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to modify the combination to provide for the following: illumination means for providing supplemental light for the camera as this arrangement would provide additional illumination for imaging the user of the video telephone as taught by Guichard, thus providing better pictures.

19. Claim 29 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mazurek in view of Ono and Guichard as applied to claim 28 above, and further in view of Anzai et al. (JP 401300783A, hereinafter Anzai).

The combination differs from claim 29 in that it does not teach the following: illumination means includes spectrum outside of that normally visible with the human eye, and wherein camera is sensitive to the non-visible spectrum for the illumination means.

However, Anzai discloses video telephone set which teaches the following: illumination means (6, fig. 1) includes spectrum outside of that normally visible with the



human eye, and wherein camera is sensitive to the non-visible spectrum for the illumination means (see abstract).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to modify the combination to provide for the following: illumination means includes spectrum outside of that normally visible with the human eye, and wherein camera is sensitive to the non-visible spectrum for the illumination means as this arrangement would provide another well known means for illumination the user of the video telephone as taught by Anzai so that user can get better picture in connection with video telephone use.

20. Claim 30 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mazurek in view of Ono as applied to claim 26 above, and further in view of Allen (US PAT: 6,489,986).

The combination differs from claim 30 in that it does not specifically teach the following: means for connecting to a communication network comprises videophone interface unit connected to a communication medium, which communication medium is connected to the communication network, and wherein connection between the videophone and videophone interface unit is wireless.

However, Allen teaches the following: means for connecting to a communication network comprises videophone interface unit (102, fig. 2) connected to a communication medium (104, fig. 2) which communication medium is connected to the communication network, and wherein connection between the videophone and videophone interface unit is wireless (fig. 8, col. 8, line 53 – col. 9, line 45).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to modify the combination to provide for the following: means for connecting to a communication network comprises videophone interface unit connected to a communication medium, which communication medium is connected to the communication network, and wherein connection between the videophone and videophone interface unit is wireless as this arrangement would provide user with convenience of movement using video telephone for communicating with other party without being tethered by communication cable as taught by Allen.

21. Claim 32 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mazurek in view of Ono as applied to claim 31 above, and further in view of Umstetter et al. (US PAT: 6,862,347, filed 1-28-1999).

The combination differs from claim 32 in that although it teaches memory means includes a component located within the videophone for providing ancillary convenience feature (page 12, lines 20-32 of Mazurek); it does not specifically teach a component located remotely from the videophone, and where the component located remotely from the videophone provides backup and overflow storage for the component located with in the videophone.

However, Umstetter discloses method and apparatus for extending telephone capabilities which teaches the following: a component located remotely from the telephone, and where the component located remotely from the telephone provides backup and overflow storage for the component located with in the telephone (fig. 3, col. 4 lines 44-53).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to modify the combination to provide for the following: a component located remotely from the videophone, and where the component located remotely from the videophone provides backup and overflow storage for the component located with in the videophone as this arrangement would provide means for extending memory capacity of the videophone in order store in external memory or backup memory the information desired to be stored by the videophone as taught by Umstetter.

22. Claims 33, 38-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mazurek in view of Ono as applied to claim 31 above, and further in view of Van DE Sluis.

The combination differs from claims 33, 38-42 in that it does not teach the following: information about users includes selectively stored video images of one or more users, means for selcetably capturing and storing in the memory means images of the users associated with the videophone number being called, means for selectably retrieving and storing in the memory means, stored images of the users associated with videophone number being called, images to be retrieved have been stored in memory means associated with the videophone being called, means for selectively capturing and selectably storing in the memory means images of users associated with a second videophone calling the videophone, thereby providing video caller id functionality, means for selectably retrieving and selctably storing in the memory means, images of users associated with a second videophone calling the videophone, thereby providing video caller id functionality.

However, Van DE Sluis teaches the following: information about users includes selectively stored video images of one or more users, means for selcetably capturing and storing in the memory means images of the users associated with the videophone number being called, means for selectably retrieving and storing in the memory means, stored images of the users associated with videophone number being called, images to be retrieved have been stored in memory means associated with the videophone being called, means for selectively capturing and selectably storing in the memory means images of users associated with a second videophone calling the videophone, thereby providing video caller id functionality, means for selectably retrieving and selctably storing in the memory means, images of users associated with a second videophone calling the videophone, thereby providing video caller id functionality (paragraphs: .0009-0012; 0023-0026; figs. 1-3).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to modify the combination to provide for the following: information about users includes selectively stored video images of one or more users, means for selcetably capturing and storing in the memory means images of the users associated with the videophone number being called, means for selectably retrieving and storing in the memory means, stored images of the users associated with videophone number being called, images to be retrieved have been stored in memory means associated with the videophone being called, means for selectively capturing and selectably storing in the memory means images of users associated with a second videophone calling the videophone, thereby providing video caller id functionality, means for selectably

Art Unit: 2614

retrieving and selectably storing in the memory means, images of users associated with a second videophone calling the videophone, thereby providing video caller id functionality as this arrangement would provide the user with visual interface by displaying images of communication partners so that user can easily recognize the communication partner to initiate telephone communications as taught by Van DE Sluis.

23. Claim 34 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mazurek in view of Ono as applied to claim 31 above, and further in view of Takala (US PAT: 6,622,021).

The combination differs from claim 34 in that it does not teach the following: information about the users includes selectably stored reminder information about one or more of the users.

However, Takala discloses system and method for implementing an automated communication response service which teaches the following: information about the users includes selectably stored reminder information about one or more of the users (col. 5 lines 26-47).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to modify the combination to provide for the following: information about the users includes selectably stored reminder information about one or more of the users as this arrangement would provide means for handling user situations in communication environment depending upon user schedules, calendar as taught by Takala, thus enhancing user convenience.

Art Unit: 2614

24. Claim 35 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mazurek in view of Ono as applied to claim 31 above, and further in view of Allen (US2002/0199181A1).

The combination differs from claim 35 in that it does not teach the following: selctably stored information about the types of information one or more of the users is currently available to receive.

However, Allen teaches the following: selctably stored information about the types of information one or more of the users is currently available to receive (paragraphs: 0067-0072; fig. 4).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to modify the combination to provide for the following: selctably stored information about the types of information one or more of the users is currently available to receive as this arrangement would facilitate the user to determine current availability of users for establishing communication for exchanging various types of information as taught by Allen, thus alleviating playing phone tag.

25. Claim 43-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mazurek in view of Ono as applied to claim 31 above, and further in view of Imadea.

The combination differs from claim 43-44 in that it does not teach the following: means in the event a user does not answer the videophone to selectably capture/retrieve and selectably store in the memory means, images of the users associated with a second videophone calling the videophone, thereby providing video answering machine capability.

However, Imadea teaches the following: means in the event a user does not answer the videophone to selectably capture/retrieve and selectably store in the memory means, images of the users associated with a second videophone calling the videophone, thereby providing video answering machine capability (abstract; col. 9 lines 31-43).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to modify the combination to provide for the following: means in the event a user does not answer the videophone to selectably capture/retrieve and selectably store in the memory means, images of the users associated with a second videophone calling the videophone, thereby providing video answering machine capability as this arrangement would enable the user to have means for recording information about callers when he is unable to receive calls, thereby providing convenience for the user to handle calls during his absence.

26. Claim 48 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mazurek in view of Ono as applied to claim 47 above, and further in view of Boris (FR002691868A1).

The combination differs from claim 48 in that it does not teach the following: processing the received signals to facilitate enhanced perception by the handicapped user.

However, Boris teaches the following: processing the received signals to facilitate enhanced perception by the handicapped user (fig. 2, see abstract).

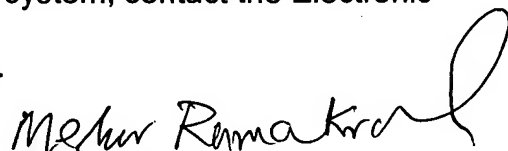
Art Unit: 2614

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to modify the combination to provide for the following: processing the received signals to facilitate enhanced perception by the handicapped user as this arrangement would provide means for facilitating communication for handicapped users as taught by Boris.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Melur Ramakrishnaiah whose telephone number is (571)272-8098. The examiner can normally be reached on 9 Hr schedule.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Curt Kuntz can be reached on (571) 272-7499. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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